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**OFFICE OF PETITIONS**

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In re Patent No. 7,031,738 :  
Issued: April 18, 2006 :  
Application No. 09/839,727 : **DECISION GRANTING PETITION**  
Filed: April 20, 2001 :  
Attorney Docket No. 9030101.146-US1 :

This is a decision on the petition, filed April 26, 2010, under 37 CFR 1.378(c) to accept the unintentionally delayed payment of 3.5 year maintenance fee for the above-identified patent.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

The patent issued April 18, 2006. The grace period for paying the 3.5 year maintenance fee expired at midnight April 18, 2010. Therefore, since the petition was filed within twenty-four months after the six-month grace period provided in 37 CFR 1.362(e), this petition was timely filed under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.378(c).

Accordingly, the maintenance fee in this case of \$490.00 will be accepted along with the surcharge of \$1640.00<sup>1</sup>. The above-identified patent is hereby reinstated as of the mail date of this decision.

Telephone inquiries concerning this matter may be directed to the undersigned at (571) 272-3222.

/Kenya A. McLaughlin/

Kenya A. McLaughlin  
Petitions Attorney  
Office of Petitions

<sup>1</sup> The surcharge of \$1,640.00 and 3.5-year maintenance fee of \$490.00 will be charged to deposit account 50-4207 as authorized.